

STATE MASONS IN MEET AT MERIDIAN

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT NINETY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF GRAND LODGE.

CORNERSTONE IS UNVEILED

Ceremony Held at \$80,000 Scottish Rite Cathedral Under Course of Construction—R. A. Carlson Chosen Grand Master.

Meridian. — Between eleven and twelve hundred visiting Masons were in attendance at the opening of the ninety-sixth annual session of the Grand Masonic lodge of the state in the court house auditorium. The address of welcome was delivered by Hon. A. B. Amis of this city on behalf of the local lodges, and the response was made by Walter A. Scott, deputy grand master, of Jackson. Mrs. Lott Armistead, worthy grand matron of Greenville, delivered an address as a representative of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The feature of the first day's session was the laying of the cornerstone of the Scottish Rite cathedral, a magnificent \$80,000 building now under course of construction at a beautiful site on Twenty-third avenue, not more than three blocks from the business district. Grand Master A. H. Bays of Grenada presided and the principal address was made by M. R. Grant, supreme inspector-general for Mississippi, and the ceremony was according to the usual ancient rites of the order. At the conclusion a silver trowel was presented to Grand Master Alfred H. Bays of Grenada.

The grand lodge elected the following officers: R. A. Carlson, grand master, Columbus; J. M. Brooks, senior warden, Clarksdale; George B. Powers, grand junior warden, Jackson; B. V. White, grand treasurer, Meridian; Frederick Speed, grand secretary, Vicksburg; Y. Yaretsky, tiler, Shuqualak; Rev. J. W. Lee, grand chaplain, Batesville.

The next session of the grand lodge will be held in Vicksburg.

SLAIN WITHOUT PROVOCATION

Grover Warren Kills George Blaggs in Pontotoc County.

New Albany.—Near Thackston, in the northern part of Pontotoc county, Grover Warren, a young man, shot George Blaggs, another young man, twice, killing him, and the report is that after Blaggs fell Warren shot twice again and then killed the horse that Blaggs was riding. Warren was at the church and had been drinking. It is said, when Blaggs rode up on horseback. It is alleged that, without any provocation, and before others realized what he was going to do, Grover Warren shot him. Warren made his escape, but was captured at Ingonmar, in Union county, by the sheriff of that county. The Pontotoc officers claimed the prisoner because the killing occurred there, and he is in jail at that place.

MYSTERY IN DEATH OF YOUTH

Body of Hunter Crowe, Aged 18, Found in Woods Near Columbus.

Columbus.—The Caledonia community, north of Columbus, was shocked by the finding of the body of 18-year-old Hunter Crowe, son of John Crowe, a prominent citizen of the Caledonia section, in a section of woods near the young man's home, with a bullet hole through his body. The young man left his home three weeks ago and had not been heard from. His parents presumed that he had gone to the home of some friend or relative and expected his return daily, little suspecting that violence would come to him. The body was accidentally found by a hunting party and the parents notified. A rifle was found by his side. An inquest was held and the theory of suicide was established. Friends and relatives of the young man, however, are at a loss for a reason why he should have taken his own life.

Applies Rod to Twenty-Seven.

Coldwater.—Twenty-seven boys were whipped at one time by Principal Crawford of the Coldwater High School. He administered ten lashes to each of the boys found guilty of shooting pins over the school room by means of rubber bands.

Killed by Switch Engine.

Corinth.—J. D. Dillon, 65 years of age, was instantly killed here when he was run down by a switch engine on the Illinois Central railroad, in the eastern portion of this city, near the Illinois Central coal chute.

Columbia Bank Closes Doors.

Columbia.—The Pearl River Bank of this place has been closed by order of the board of directors. The bank is capitalized at \$30,000, and had \$10,000 surplus. An investigation is being made.

New Bank for Brookhaven.

Brookhaven.—Final organization by the signing of papers and paying in of stock subscriptions has been completed for the new First National Bank of Brookhaven.

ASK SELLING SYSTEM CHANCE

Vicksburg Cotton Exchange Objects to Wall Street Market Methods.

Vicksburg.—At a meeting the Vicksburg Cotton exchange declared its belief that the form of the future contracts used by the New York Cotton exchange is neither more nor less than a method of gambling, that it does not represent the real value of cotton as established in the spot cotton market, that it fails to provide a safe, trustworthy and legitimate hedge and that it lends itself to gambling operations by the large dealers to the detriment and demoralization of the entire cotton trade.

It was the sense of the meeting that a just and commercial future contract should contain a provision for the adoption of government standards of classification of commercial differences requiring but one certification for each bale and limiting the number of classifications which may be delivered on a single contract.

The meeting decided to petition senators and representatives from the state in congress to further legislation that will force the cotton exchanges to adopt a fair and just contract system.

SUSTAINS DEATH SENTENCES.

Supreme Court Upholds Conviction of Two Negro Murderers.

Jackson.—According to decrees handed down by Justice Cook of the supreme court, March 26 will be hangman's day in two counties—Bollivar and Sunflower. Joe Munson, negro, is under sentence of death for murder and took an appeal, which the court could not sustain. Joe Dixon, also negro, from Bollivar, appealed from the extreme penalty and his case was likewise affirmed.

Justice Reed handed down an opinion reversing the case of P. H. Collins, from Simpson county, who appealed from a conviction of criminal assault upon his own daughter. The facts as to the specific charge seemed clear, but the lower court erred in admitting testimony as to subsequent acts in connection with that upon which the indictment was based.

SIX PRISONERS BREAK JAIL.

Dig Hole Through Three-Foot Wall at Bay St. Louis.

Bay St. Louis.—Four white men, charged with burglary, one charged with carrying concealed weapons and another charged with larceny, escaped from the Hancock county jail here by digging a hole through a three-foot brick wall.

One of seven negro prisoners who refused to leave said the escaped men were directed in their work by Alfred Oliver, aged 20, charged with burglary and breaking jail. He said one of the prisoners escaped through the hole, stole the jail key from the sheriff's office, a hundred yards away, and then released the other five.

The men who escaped were Joseph E. Smith, charged with burglary and breaking jail; Edward Dunn, burglary; Norris Nicale, larceny; Cornelia Estopila, burglary; Tim Williams, carrying concealed weapons, and Oliver.

JAIL DELIVERY FRUSTRATED

Prisoners in Meridian Bastile Use Saws Brought by Girl.

Meridian.—A wholesale jail delivery of five murderers sentenced for life and burglars and highway robbers was narrowly averted when Hillary McCullom, a seventeen-year-old boy, told his father that the cell bars had been sawed and that the windows leading to the street had been prepared for the gang to get away. McCullom immediately notified the jailer and the plan was frustrated. The plan to escape was engineered by Frank A. Hand, sentenced Saturday morning to fifteen years for highway robbery. J. E. Jax, the wooden-nosed man, did the sawing. The saws were procured through Ola McCullom, the fifteen-year-old sister of Hillary, who confessed that she bought the saws and did not know it was any harm. The girl was not arrested. A thorough search of the cells failed to reveal the hiding place of the saws.

ALFALFA ACREAGE INCREASED

Lowndes County Farmers Purchase 20,000 Pounds of Seed.

Columbus.—Farmers in Lowndes county have purchased over twenty thousand pounds of alfalfa seed for spring planting, which means that over a thousand acres will be added to the area already devoted to the legume in this county. This section, which is recognized by government experts to be the finest alfalfa land in the United States, is rapidly developing as a hay and stock growing territory. Alfalfa growing has passed the experimental stage in this section and it is now considered a staple crop. Farmers in every section of the county are devoting considerable acreage to the legume and the yield this year is expected to greatly exceed that of any previous time.

Bruno Is Granted Bail.

Canton.—Jim Bruno, the Italian charged with the murder of his brother-in-law, was brought before Judge Jones under a writ of habeas corpus and granted bail in the sum of \$2,000.

Constable Slain by Negro.

Leland.—W. H. Clifton, constable and former deputy sheriff, was killed near here while attempting to arrest a negro named Dave Ross. He was son of John Clifton, postmaster at Senatobia.

MRS. JOSEPHUS DANIEL'S



Since her husband became a member of President Wilson's cabinet, Mrs. Josephus Daniels, wife of the secretary of the navy, has made herself one of the best loved women in Washington.

SENATOR A. E. BACON DEAD

Georgia Statesman Expires Suddenly in Washington Hospital After a Short Illness.

Washington, D. C.—Augustus Octavius Bacon, United States senator from Georgia for nearly nineteen years and chairman of the foreign relations committee since the ascendancy of the Democratic party March 4, 1913, died in a hospital here after an illness of ten days, aged 75 years. He was the first United States senator elected by direct vote of the people under the seventeenth constitutional amendment.

Though Senator Bacon had been seriously ill with kidney trouble and complications developing from a broken rib, his death was unexpected. The immediate cause of the senator's demise was diagnosed as a blood clot on the heart.

Senator Bacon was born in Bryan county, Georgia, October 2, 1839, and for many years made his home in Macon. On being graduated from the University of Georgia in 1860 he entered the Confederate army and served during the campaigns of 1861 and 1862 as adjutant of the Ninth Georgia regiment in the Army of Northern Virginia. Subsequently he was commissioned as captain in the provisional army of the Confederate States and was assigned to general staff duty.

After the war Senator Bacon resumed the practice of law and took an active part in politics. He was president of the state democratic convention in Chicago in 1884. In 1892 he was elected to the Georgia house of representatives, serving in the legislature for fourteen years, and was for eight years speaker of the house.

He was first elected to the United States senate in 1895, re-elected in 1900 and again in 1907 by the legislature. In 1913 he was unanimously re-elected in a general election, being the first senator chosen by direct vote.

STATE TREASURER SUICIDES

Worry Over Graft Inquiry Believed Responsible for New York Official's Act—Books Are Correct.

Buffalo, N. Y.—John J. Kennedy, state treasurer, committed suicide at the Marquee Hotel, where he lived with his family. He was found in a small room with his throat cut and an open razor on the floor beside him. His jugular vein had been severed.

Temporary insanity, induced by worry over his impending appearance before a New York grand jury where District Attorney Charles S. Whitman has been conducting a John Doe graft inquiry, is said to be the only reason that can be assigned for Mr. Kennedy's act.

Gov. Glynn, in an interview at Albany, said he had been informed by the comptroller's office that it had checked up State Treasurer Kennedy only a few days ago and had found his accounts correct.

The governor immediately ordered a full audit of the books to begin. It became known after the suicide of Mr. Kennedy that Arthur L. Warner, chief assistant to Commissioner Osborne, in the investigation of state departments, for several months has been investigating reports that the state treasurer was intimately connected with a bonding company that has been doing a large business with state contractors.

Lonely Widow Ends Life.

San Francisco.—Mrs. Charles H. Wood, wife of the late clubman and banker of this city, who died at Agra, India, December 5, jumped overboard from the steamer Iyo Maru the first night out of Singapore, while en route to Hongkong with her husband's ashes.

Nine Go Down With Barges.

New London, Conn.—Nine persons, five men and four women, are believed to have lost their lives in a blizzard through the foundering of a string of coal barges in Long Island Sound, off this city.

Greek Veterans Returning.

New York.—About 55,000 Greek veterans of the late Balkan wars will arrive here within the next four months, according to information brought by the steamer Patris.

BANDIT CASTILLO TAKEN BY TROOPS

UNITED STATES CAVALRY MAKES CAPTURE OF LEADER OF "MEXICAN GUERRILLAS."

CAUSED BURNING OF TRAIN

Held Responsible for Death of Fifty in Cumbre Tunnel Disaster—Execution Certain if Rebels Get Castillo.

El Paso, Tex.—Maximo Castillo, the Mexican bandit, charged with responsibility for the Cumbre tunnel disaster, in which ten Americans and forty-one others lost their lives, was captured thirty-eight miles south of Chihuahua, N. M., by American troops. With the bandit was six of his followers, who, according to reports, surrendered without fight. They will be brought here.

Castillo, to avoid a range of mountains on the Mexican side, made a detour which brought him into American territory. Capt. White, Ninth United States cavalry, was on the watch, having received information from Walter McCormick, American manager of Las Palomas ranch, on the Mexican side, that the much wanted man was in the vicinity.

Whether the prisoner shall be surrendered to the rebels is a legal question which remains to be settled. If this is done there is no doubt that he will be executed for the Cumbre disaster. He is not charged with a crime on this side.

Castillo set fire to a freight train in the Cumbre tunnel two weeks ago. The cars were burning when a passenger train crashed into it and every life aboard was lost. The tunnel still is burning.

FRANK TO DIE FOR MURDER

Georgia Supreme Court Upholds the Conviction of Atlanta Man for Slaying of Young Girl.

Atlanta, Ga.—Leo M. Frank, under sentence of death for the murder of 14-year-old Mary Phagan here on April 26 of last year, was advanced one step closer to the gallows, when the Georgia supreme court sustained the verdict of the lower court, which pronounced him guilty.

Although Frank's lawyers have made no statement as to what steps they would take next, it was reported that they have not yet given up the determined battle which they have waged for the freedom of the young factory superintendent. News that the highest court of the state had denied him the right to be again tried failed to shake the iron nerve of the condemned man. He received the tidings quietly, refusing the comment thereon.

Frank's fight for freedom may be prolonged in a number of ways, and it is pointed out that months may elapse before his fate finally is decided. Unless an extraordinary motion for a new trial, or some other move in behalf of the convicted man is made, he will be resented within the next two weeks.

PROBE MEMPHIS BANK CRASH

Special Grand Jury Called to Investigate Failure of the Mercantile Bank.

Memphis.—Preparations for further consideration of affairs that brought about the failure of the Mercantile bank are being made by the grand jury. A special session has been called for, at which only bank matters will be considered, with a view to determining the extent of liability involving officials of the institution.

It is understood that the jury will attempt to fix the responsibility of the bank's board of directors, although no further indictments have been drawn against any official with the exception of President C. H. Raine, who is in jail, charged with defalcations of nearly a million dollars. Raine, in his cell at the county jail, has executed a transfer of his life estate in the handsome residence and grounds on Central avenue, where he has lived for many years, to the receiver for the bank.

Army Aviator Falls to Death.

Pensacola, Fla.—Lieut. J. McC. Murray of the United States naval aviation corps, stationed here, was instantly killed when his machine plunged into Pensacola Bay. He fell about 800 feet. Lieut. Murray had been flying out in the gulf and was returning to the station when the accident occurred. An investigation has not revealed the cause of the accident.

Operation Cures Chronic Thief.

Boston.—Judge Bruce, in the Malien court, released Charles J. English, a 14-year-old Everett boy, from probation, having become convinced that his tendency to steal for the last two years has been cured by the removal of adenoids in his throat.

Belgian King's Arm Broken.

Brussels.—Albert I, king of the Belgians, broke his left arm when he was thrown from his horse while riding in the forest of Selgnies, near the battlefield of Waterloo.

PERL D. DECKER



Perl D. Decker of Joplin is the representative in congress of the Fifteenth district of Missouri. He was born in Ohio thirty-eight years ago, is a Democrat and a lawyer.

HOLD UP TRAIN; LYNCH NEGRO

Prisoner Accused of Attempted Slaying Is Hanged by Mob at Love Station, Miss.

Love Station, Miss.—A mob of fifty masked men held up an Illinois Central train here, covered the train crew and all the passengers with revolvers and shotguns, took from the DeSoto county sheriff, E. F. Nichols, two negroes, Buck, alias "Johnson," McGuirk and Bill Phillips, accused of ambushing J. K. Ingram, near Byhalla, Miss., three weeks ago, hanged the first named negro and turned Phillips loose.

The two negroes were being carried from Batesville, Miss., to Hernando for preliminary trial. They had been taken to Batesville three weeks ago for safe keeping, as feeling ran high against them at the time they were caught.

The train makes only a brief stop at Love Station, and by an evidently prearranged signal, fifty men, masked, armed to the teeth, surrounded the train. Four of them covered the engine crew. The remainder went through the cars, brandishing shotguns and revolvers.

Sheriff Nichols, in charge of the two negroes, was riding in the day coach, with his back toward the engine so he could watch his prisoners. Taking him unawares, two pistols and a shotgun were placed in his face and he was ordered to deliver up his prisoners. Having no other alternative, he did so, at the same time pleading with the mob not to harm the Phillips negro, as it was his belief the evidence against him was slight.

The blacks, handcuffed together, were taken from the train. A few hundred yards from the depot Phillips, who was handcuffed to the other negro, was released, members of the mob cutting his handcuffs with wire cutters.

The mob then dragged McGuirk to the Coldwater bridge, one and one-half miles east of Love Station, hung him to the structure and then quietly dispersed.

TO VETO IMMIGRATION BILL

President Wilson Says That He Will Not Stand For the Literary Test Clause.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson will veto the Burnett immigration bill if it comes to him for signature with the so-called literacy test contained in it. This became known from an authoritative source after Chairman Smith of the senate immigration committee had announced that the bill, virtually as it passed the house, including the literacy test, would be favorably reported to the senate soon. Prospects are that the bill will pass the senate as reported from the committee, but the measure never will become law, according to close friends of the president. The president does not consider literacy a test of character, and believes some other means should be devised to prevent undesirable aliens from entering the United States.

Haitian Federals Victorious.

Cape Haitien, Haiti.—Two victories were won by the armies sent to the north by President Ozarias Zamor to suppress the revolution under the leadership of Senator Davilmar Theodore.

Brain of Bertillon Massive.

Paris.—The brain of Alphonse Bertillon, inventor of the system of criminal identification which brought him fame, weighed 1,525 grammes. The brain of the average man weighs 1,360 grammes.

Hope to Adjourn June 15.

Washington.—June 15 is the date upon which democratic leaders hope to adjourn congress. President Wilson believes the senate and house may work at the same time on the trust bills.

SENATOR GORE IS CLEARED BY JURY

OKLAHOMA STATESMAN WINS A SENSATIONAL DAMAGE SUIT BROUGHT BY WOMAN.

RETURN VERDICT QUICKLY

Only Ten Minutes Necessary for the Vindication of Blind Senator. Mrs. Bond Asked \$50,000 for Alleged Assault.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Upon the testimony of Mrs. Minnie E. Bond and her own witnesses Senator T. P. Gore was vindicated of any wrong conduct toward Mrs. Bond by a jury in the district court here.

The jury was in the jury room two minutes and one-half, and one ballot was taken. It was unanimous for Senator Gore, and denied Mrs. Bond one cent of the \$50,000 she asked from the blind senator, whom she had charged with attempting to assault her in a Washington hotel on March 24, 1913.

The jury retired for its deliberations at 5:35 o'clock, and in ten minutes had filed back into the courtroom and taken their seats. The packed courtroom was silent as Judge Clark read the verdict.

At his final words, "in favor of the defendant," those near the front of the room heard Mrs. Gore utter a stifled cry as she leaped from her chair, grasped the hand of the senator and whispered something into his ear. When she turned and shook hands with Henry Carpenter, the foreman of the jury, tears were streaming down the eyes of both her and the aged farmer. Senator Gore said:

"The verdict confirms my faith that truth will triumph. I never for a moment doubted the outcome at the hands of a jury."

In her declaration Mrs. Bond alleged that the senator attacked her while she was in conference with him at a hotel in Washington in connection with the possible appointment of her husband, Julian Bond, as internal revenue collector at Oklahoma City. Gore seized her, she alleged, and threw her violently across a bed and freed her only after several men appeared in the doorway of the room. In the scuffle, she asserted, her face was scratched and hand lacerated by fragments of her broken eye-glasses.

In his answer Senator Gore made a general denial of the charges and made the counter charge that the suit was instituted by a coterie of his political opponents who had failed in their efforts to secure federal patronage.

SLAYS HIS WIFE'S FATHER

Oklahoma Man Also Fatally Wounds His Own Father as Result of Quarrel Over Note.

Wellston, Okla.—Everett Norris, 22, farm hand living near here, shot three of his relatives, one of whom is dead, one dying and one probably fatally wounded. The dead:

W. W. Riley, father-in-law of Norris.

The wounded:

Frank Norris, dying; father of Everett; Alcorn, brother-in-law of Everett Norris.

Young Norris rode to his father's farm and, after a few words about the renewal of a note, shot his father four times. Then he rode to the farm of his father-in-law, killing him instantly, and fatally wounding his brother-in-law. Declaring he intended to go to the school house and murder all the children, he rode off toward town. A telephone message to the town resulted in an armed crowd awaiting Norris at the school house, and he was arrested.

FEDERAL JUDGE IS ATTACKED

Mine Workers Tell President Wilson That West Virginia Jurist Is Prejudiced.

Washington.—Charges against Federal Judge A. D. Dayton of the northern West Virginia district were filed by a committee of the United Mine Workers and the Ohio Valley Trades and Labor assembly, asking for an investigation. Judge Dayton was charged with prejudices which incapacitated him from sitting as a judge, and the petition contained allegations intended to support that charge. President Wilson promised to consider the petition and refer it to Attorney-General McReynolds.

Peru Ex-President Exiled.

Lima.—Guillermo Billinghurst, deposed as president of Peru Feb. 4, has been sent into exile, together with his minister of the interior.

Expects Venezuela Revolt.

New York.—Gen. Jose Hernandez, who has arrived from the West Indies where he conferred with other Venezuelan revolutionary chiefs, makes no secret of the fact that he expects a revolution in Venezuela in April.

Mrs. Gen. Logan Near Death.

Washington.—Mrs. John A. Logan, widow of the Civil war general, took a poisonous medicine at her home here, thinking it was a cold remedy, and for several hours was in a precarious condition.